

HI-Q

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC- Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

VE3FW - LARC call sign - honours the memory of the Founding President - P. J. "Pat" O'Shea

LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske	VE3JQ
Ray Forslund	VE3EDZ
Pat Doherty	VE3PD
Dave Kimpton	VE3AVS
Bill Roberts	VE3ARN
Laurie Bridgett	VE3BCD

LARC EXECUTIVE 2004-2005

President:	Bill Unger	VE3XT 344-1848
Vice-Pres:	Bob Hansen	VE3RVA 767-6924
Secretary:	Charlene Schiffer	VA3AAH 473-8420
Treasurer:	Ed Baumann	VE3SNW 622-1216
Directors:	Terry Stewardson	VA3LU 577-9439
	Mark Vaillant	VA3MVR 935-2205
	Brad Harris	VE3MXJ 767-0628
	Leo Wehrstedt	VE3ATC 939-1020
Editor:	Glen Wallace	VE3ICY 623-0135

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT MOUNT BALDY 147.060 (-600) FP
VE3TBR ST. JOSEPH'S 146.820 (-600) FP
442.075 (+5 MHz)
VE3BGA HILLCREST H.S. 145.450 (-600)
(IRLP NODE VA3LU 123.0 Hz)

The Prez Sez:

Well now that the snow has gone its official, antenna season is closed. Hope your sky wire is ready for the summer season.

There are a couple of announcements this month.:

On Saturday May 14 there will be a yard sale at the home of VE3AJ's on 244 Egan St. It will start at 9 AM and go until 1 PM. We will be selling off all of the remainder of Bill's parts and pieces. If you want to stock up your junk box this is the time to do it.

If you want to set up your own table please feel free to do so as well, and several other locals are planning to unload their goodies. This will be a chance of a life time to get some great goodies and deals.

I am sure some of you are aware that another LARC senator became a silent key this week. Ray, VE3EDZ passed away last week. I hope some of you are able to attend his funeral this Wednesday.

There will be a regular meeting of the LARC on May 12 at the usual location in the McIntyre Building at 7:30 PM. I hope to have a guest speaker and a good attendance would be appreciated. I think most of you will find this interesting.

Hope to see you there.

73.

Bill VE3XT

*Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
held in Room 191 at Confederation College,
Thunder Bay, Ontario on April 14, 2005*

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the President VE3XT, Bill Unger with 29 members and guests in attendance.

In place of a guest speaker, a round table was held with those in attendance telling what they had been doing over the winter or what they had planned for the upcoming months.

Minutes of the last meeting held March 10, 2005

The minutes of the March meeting were published in the April edition of HI-Q.

Motion: moved by VE3TBX Joe Coghlan and seconded by VA3EAP Judy Artist that the minutes be accepted as printed. **Carried.**

Correspondence:

- none

Treasurer's Report

VE3SNW Ed Baumann (read by VE3XT)

Balance as March 1, 2005		\$3,483.94
Expenses	Telephone	44.28
	Bank Service Fee	1.50
		45.78
Income	Bank Interest	0.02
		0.02
Balance as of March 31, 2005		\$3,438.18

Motion: moved by VE3AVS Dave Kimpton and seconded by VE3ICY Glen Wallace that the Treasurer's report be accepted. **Carried.**

Auditor's Report: VA3BEL Vic Bel reported that the Club's finances for 2004 have been audited and that the financial statements were in accordance with generally accepted procedures.

Phone Patch Link: VA3LU Terry Stewardson reported that the phone patch is now up and running on VE3YQT. The boys attempted to three weeks ago to drive up to the repeater on Mount Baldy and got stuck in the snow. They ended up walking up to the site. The phone patch is no longer available on VE3TBR.

**LARC, Suite 184, 1100C, Memorial Avenue,
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3**

Mayor's Walk: The Club has received a request to provide communications for the "Mayor's Walk" to be held Saturday April 23rd in and around Victoriaville. We are looking for 5 to 8 volunteers to meet at Victoriaville at 10am. T-shirts will be provided.

Ten Mile Road Race: will be held Monday May 23rd. If interested in volunteering, contact VE3XRC Norm Bell at 577-9316

Hospital Radio Installation: VA3OJ Randy Gottfred reported that he is still working on getting a 2m antenna installed in the vicinity of the emergency department to cut down on the amount of cable that will be required. The original placement would have required a major expense for 200+ feet of heliax.

New Business:

Canwarn Training: will be held on Friday, May 27th at 7pm at Confederation College. It was also pointed out that Environment Canada has donated two repeaters to the Club. These repeaters were previously used for the VHF radio broadcasts.

50/50 Draw: winner of the 50/50 draw was VE3KRH, Steve Robb.

Adjournment: Moved by VA3LU Terry Stewardson that the meeting be adjourned.
Carried..

Ray Forslund, VE3EDZ, SK

On May 4 Ray, VE3EDZ became a silent key. He was a member of the LARC for over 30 years and has been a senator for a lengthy period.

I first met Ray when I was studying for my license and he and Bill VE3AJ and my uncle, VE3DPJ were some of my first mentors in radio.

My uncle Peter taught me CW. Bill, AJ taught me how things worked and Ray, VE3EDZ taught me to how to make things work.

He was one of those annoying people to me. It did not matter what he tackled, whether it was radio, an amethyst fireplace at camp or wood working he could pick it up and have it built and working in no time flat. He had an easy way about him and after looking at the problem, he would say it works like this.....

**LARC, Suite 184, 1100C, Memorial Avenue,
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3**

I remember as a very new and green ham going to his house and bringing my first 2 Metre rig, an old GE Prog line unit from a taxi he got for me. He led me through the steps of converting it from 150 MHz to 144 MHz by padding the front end with extra capacity and retuning the PA stages. This unit was about 18 inches across and 24 inches high and 10 inches deep. He helped me build a 600 VDC power supply to get the darn thing to work. At that point on 2M DX was from my parents Westfort home to his in deep Port Arthur at that point. I can still hear the squelch breaking on that old rig and hearing his voice. This was long before the days of repeaters and hand helds.

He was also an accomplished HF operator and builder. One of the rigs he built was an SSB rig for 75 M from scratch. It was portable and he used to operate it from his camp at Arrow Lake. In the late 70's this was a pretty impressive accomplishment. He was one of the original QRP operators

One of the platitudes you hear about people after they become silent keys is that they never had an enemy. If some one tells that about Ray in the next few weeks, it's probably the truth. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word. And I have never heard any one say anything but what a decent man Ray was, mostly because it was the truth.

On behalf of the LARC, I would like to send our sympathies to his family and hope they have as fond memories as I do.

73's Ray

Bill VE3XT

Editor Says: I met Ray VE3EDZ several years ago when I bought his Tower, Rotor, and Beam Antenna from him. Not only did he sell it at a very reasonable price, but he came over and helped me set up the beam as well. It was apparent then to me that this was a fine man and accomplished whatever he put his mind to. I would like to have had more time to get to know him better. All Bill's compliments above are true and he will be missed.

Glen Wallace VE3ICY

**LARC, Suite 184, 1100C, Memorial Avenue,
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3**

REWARD OFFERED

A REWARD OF 500 MICROFARADS IS OFFERED FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OF THIS DESPERATE CRIMINAL

HOP-A-LONG CAPACITY

THIS UNRECTIFIED CRIMINAL ESCAPED FROM A WESTERN PRIMARY CELL WHERE HE HAD BEEN CLAMPED IN IONS AWAITING THE GAUSS CHAMBER.

HE WAS CHARGED WITH THE INDUCTION OF AN 18 TURN COIL NAMED MILLIHENRY WHO WAS FOUND CHOKED AND ROBBED OF VALUABLE JOULES. HE IS ARMED WITH A CARBON ROD AND IS A POTENTIAL KILLER. CAPACITY IS ALSO CHARGED WITH DRIVING DC MOTOR OVER A WHEATSTONE BRIDGE AND REFUSING TO LET THE BAND-PASS.

IF ENCOUNTERED, HE MAY OFFER SERIES OF RESISTANCE. THE ELECTROMOTIVE FORCE SPENT THE NIGHT SEARCHING FOR HIM IN A MAGNETIC FIELD, WHERE HE HAD GONE TO EARTH. THEY HAD NO SUCCESS AND BELIEVED HE HAD RETURNED OHM VIA A SHORT CIRCUIT.

HE WAS LAST SEEN RIDING A KILOCYCLE WITH HIS FRIEND EDDY CURRENT WHO WAS PLAYING A HARMONIC

From Jim O'Brian VE3UA

Frank Conrad - Born 4 May 1874; died 11 Dec 1941

American electrical engineer whose interest in radiotelephony led to the establishment of the first commercial radio station. Conrad worked for Westinghouse as assistant chief engineer at its East Pittsburgh Works and acquired over 200 patents in his lifetime. As an amateur, having built a transmitting station on the second floor of the garage behind his home in Wilkinsburg, Pa., when he substituted a phonograph for his microphone, he discovered a large audience of listeners who had built their own crystal radio sets and who, upon hearing the music, wrote or phoned requests for more music and news. When he became swamped with these requests, he decided to broadcast regular, scheduled programs to satisfy his listeners. He coined the term "broadcast."

Frank Conrad's amateur radio station 8XK, located in his garage in Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania was one of the seeds from which broadcasting grew. 8XK was later licensed as KDKA. His early experience with radio included building sensitive receivers to hear the Naval Observatory time signals from Arlington, VA. Conrad left school in the 7th grade to work. He was transferred to the testing department at Westinghouse shortly after his employment in 1890. He became general engineer in 1904 and assistant chief engineer in 1921. He supervised the development of transmitting equipment, among other duties. He received an honorary degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Pittsburgh in 1928.

The world's first commercial radio station, KDKA in Pittsburgh, went on the air on November 2, 1920, and broadcast the presidential election returns.

It all began in 1912 when Dr. Frank Conrad, assistant chief engineer at Westinghouse in Pittsburgh, built a receiver to hear time signals from the Naval Laboratory in Arlington, Virginia. His sole purpose was to win bets on the accuracy of his watch. Conrad enjoyed his hobby so much that he built a transmitter over his garage in Wilkinsburg, a Pittsburgh suburb, and communicated with other ham (amateur) operators across the country.

Bored with ham radio conversation, Conrad decided to play his Victrola (an early record player) into the microphone. This delighted other hams, and soon the world's first disc jockey had a large following of listeners. When people around Pittsburgh learned that they could hear free music on the radio, they began to buy radios. The Joseph P. Horne Department Store in Pittsburgh sold out its entire inventory of surplus radios from World War I, along with the headphones needed to listen to them (these early radios had no built-in speakers).

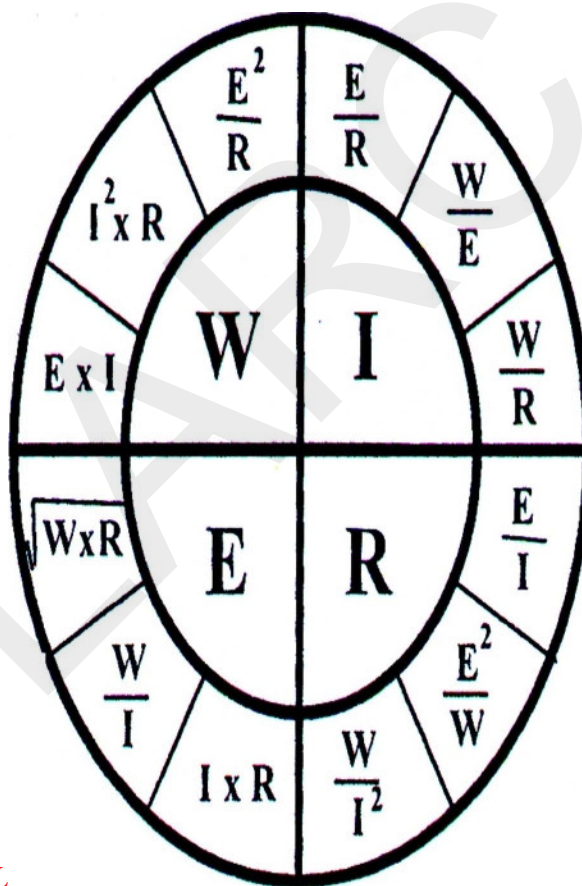
Many of these wartime radios were manufactured by the Westinghouse Corporation. Conrad's successful broadcasts gave Westinghouse vice president Harry P. Davis an idea: "Let's start our own radio station so we can sell more radios." So in October 1920, workmen constructed a shack

**LARC, Suite 184, 1100C, Memorial Avenue,
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3**

on the roof of the Westinghouse factory in East Pittsburgh. Inside, Conrad and fellow engineer

Don Little installed a 100-watt transmitter. With the call letters KDKA, it became the world's first radio station--and the first to broadcast a religious service, baseball game, boxing match, and tennis match.

From Jim O'Brian VE3UA



From Phil Moorey VE3AXL

LARC, Suite 184, 1100C, Memorial Avenue,
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

Stephen Bush, VE3DP — Celebrating 50 Years In Amateur Radio 1955-2005

Many long time club members know Stephen, VE3DP, or may have heard of him. They may know and that he is a consummate antenna experimenter, and a Morse man of some considerable talent. For those new members who haven't had the pleasure of having a QSO via radio or eyeball with him, or haven't driven by his QTH and seen his latest antenna experiment, please read on. He is a master of foreign languages, and has taught himself a few dozen along with various dialects. The real scary thing, is that he can "speak in tongues" while using high speed Morse code. Most of us have enough problems with just English!

I've had the pleasure of knowing "DP" since 1994, when I was first licensed. We both share the same interests, and since Stephen doesn't mind answering endless questions, and enjoys passing on his knowledge freely to others, he naturally became my "Elmer," as well as in time, a good friend. Even though there's a 30-year age difference between us, and Stephen has done it all and seen it all in radio, he's still managed to learn a few things from me—HI! HI!

The other day, Stephen casually mentioned that he was closing in on 80 years of age, and that he was first licensed in 1955. Like any person, he's had to cope with the advancing years and the effects of aging. His towering climbing days are in the past, SSB conversations are more difficult to copy, and he's moving a bit slower these days. However, he can still "box my ears" on the Morse circuit, if I start feeling too sorry for the "Old Man." He'll even do it at whatever speed he needs to get his point across, as a courtesy to me. Stephen, if anything, is a very, very courteous person.

Besides working DXCC multiple times over the years, Stephen also found time to be one of the net controllers, for many years, on the Sandbox Net. With his 70-foot telephone pole/antenna combination he was able to pickup and relay for many stations from around the world, while everyone else was listening to signals buried in the noise.

He does have other interests, like gardening with his green thumb. Once spring

**LARC, Suite 184, 1100C, Memorial Avenue,
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3**

comes around, he's already got a crop well started in his greenhouse. I think that he feeds a large part of his neighbourhood! Stephen and his XYL Velmay have 3 grown sons. I worked with his son Dave, during my Aeradio/FSS days—long before I ever met up with “DP.” A very small world, and full of coincidences indeed. Dave has a really good “fist” on the marine circuits, but I didn't know until years later that he got it from the Old Man.



Fishing is another one of Stephen's passions. With his son Leslie, along with a few cohorts have wrecked havoc on the inland lakes, and now on Lake Superior for years. The coast guard radio station gets numerous calls for radio checks from the strangest of locations. But, that's my fault. I gave Les a few parts and ideas for a super J-pole marine antenna. Besides putting out a decent signal on the marine bands, Les and the Old Man manage to catch far more than their fair share of fish. Must be all that “RF” around the boat attracting them!

**LARC, Suite 184, 1100C, Memorial Avenue,
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3**

For those of you who may wish to pass your congratulations and any “tales” from the past, you can reach Stephen via email at **stephenb@tbaytel.net**, or you can try your hand at a CW QSO. He’ll send and receive at any speed that you want. I think that he tops out at around 60 wpm! Here’s to a few more years on the bands, Stephen. While 100 years of hamming may be wishful thinking, here’s hoping for at least 15 or 20 more years on the air!

So my friend, congratulations and all the best to you—VE3DP DE **VA3ROM** CUL OM ES 73 AR VA DITDIT.

Editor Says: Thanks to all the contributors this month, anything you want published send to me. I’d like to thank **Cliff Pratt VA3CLF** for welding my hustler mast for me and undoing the damage of someone thoughtless. It works well on 20 meters I can testify. I enjoyed the Hamfest down in Duluth with about 8-10 other local hams making it as well. See you at the meeting Thursday.

Glen Wallace VE3ICY

LARC